

REMARKS

Claims 1-10, 23-26, 28-39, 49-51, 53-68 are pending herein.

I. The title has been corrected.

II. The specification has been corrected.

III. Claims 10 and 18 have been corrected.

IV. The Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Claim 52 has been canceled.

V. The Rejections Under 35 U.S.C §101, non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 40-48 have been canceled.

VI. The Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) at page 4.

The USPTO respectfully rejects claims 1, 28, 36, 59, 66 and 68 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Shiota et al. (US 6,011,547).

Claim 4 was not rejected above as anticipated by Shiota.

The independent claims 1, 28, 36, 59, and 66 rejected above, and the other independent claims, including claim 49, are amended herein to add some features of claim 4 namely the "independent manufacturing information," or are canceled. Thus, all of the pending independent claims are not anticipated by Shiota under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

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VII. The rejection of claim 4 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) in view of the combination of Shiota '547, Tateyama US 6,425,019 and Payley US 6,445,460 (see page 21 of the Office Action).

The claims have been amended to add the feature of claim 4 that said individual unit identification information includes independent manufacturing information to identify the image capturing apparatus from other image capturing apparatus. This feature is supported by the description on page 3 line 8 and on page 19 line 19 to page 20 line 12 of the specification.

As described from page 54 line 20 to page 57 line 2, for example, the individual unit identification information of each piece of image capturing apparatus and the image data stored within the image capturing apparatus can be logically linked and print orders can undergo processing.

Then, when print orders are to be received, it is possible to execute print order processing only with the above-mentioned individual unit identification information and thus to process print orders easily and process these orders.

Further, even if the ownership of the digital camera is transferred to another person, the new owner can receive print services based on the individual unit identification information of the digital camera without confusion and additional troublesome procedure to register another ID.

In addition, the amendments have added the structure that the print service administration apparatus includes an input unit for inputting the individual unit identification information and the image data transmitted from the image capturing apparatus and an order reception ID issuing unit issuing a unique order reception ID when the individual unit identification information is not transmitted.

With this structure, even when the individual unit identification information is not transmitted, the printing process is administered by establishing a logical linkage between the unique order reception ID and the image data.

The Examiner asserts that Shiota ('547) teaches a data printing system comprising: an image capturing apparatus including a memory for storing individual unit identification

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information of said image capturing apparatus (Shiota('547), col 2, ln 32-45).

However, in the above portion, Shiota ('547) merely teaches a memory, teaching nothing about a structure that stores in individual unit identification information a memory, including independent manufacturing information to identify the image capturing apparatus from other image capturing apparatus.

Additionally, with regard to the subject matter of claim 4, the Examiner asserts that Pavley, col 5, ln 7-8, discloses product tags (#720 of fig 5) that include information such as camera manufacturer.

As recited in claim 1, the individual unit identification information includes independent manufacturing information to identify the image capturing apparatus from other image capturing apparatuses.

Pavley merely teaches general information such as identity of the manufacturer, and teaches nothing about the independent manufacturing information to identify the image capturing apparatus from other image capturing apparatus.

Further, Shiota ('547) and Pavley disclose nothing about an order reception ID issuing unit (structure) for issuing a unique order reception ID when the individual unit identification information is not transmitted. This structure is supported by the description on page 38 lines 17-23.

Consequently, the claims would not have been anticipated by Shiota ('547) or Pavley.

Further, Shiota ('547) teaches a digital camera having a function of adding the recoding information to the digital image data recorded thereby, teaching property, focal length, and so on as the recoding information.

Accordingly, Shiota ('547) merely teaches how to process the image data based on the recoding information. Such recording information is common to similar cameras and has nothing to do with independent manufacturing information to identify the image capturing apparatus from other image capturing apparatus.

Therefore, since Shiota ('547) and Pavley teach or suggest nothing regarding how to manage the image data based on independent manufacturing information, the present claims are not obvious over Shiota ('547) and Pavley.

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VIII. The Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(e).

The USPTO respectfully rejects claims 23, 25, 27, 53-54, 56 and 57 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Shiota et al. (US 6,795,206) ("Shiota ('206)") at page 13.

The Examiner asserts that Shiota ('206) teaches a print service reception processing apparatus comprising an identification information reading means for reading individual unit identification information which is stored in said image capturing apparatus (Shiota ('206), col 2, ln 3-12).

However, in the above portion, Shiota ('206) merely teaches about processing items, teaching nothing about the structure of the present claims that stores in a memory individual unit identification information including independent manufacturing information to identify the image capturing apparatus from other image capturing apparatus.

Further, on col. 2 ln 20-21, Shiota ('206) teaches that the processing item can be input one by one by an operator using a keyboard. Accordingly, the processing item has nothing to do with individual unit identification information of the present claims.

Consequently, for the above reasons the presently amended claims and those claims which depend therefrom are not anticipated by Shiota ('206) and Pavley, and further are not obvious over Shiota ('206) in view Pavley for these same reasons.

With regards to claim 49 and the claims which depend therefrom

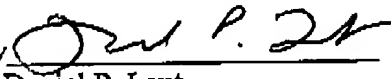
IX. Conclusion.

Reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims is respectfully requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Please contact the undersigned for any reason. Applicants seek to cooperate with the Examiner including via telephone if convenient for the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

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